Scarcity of Water for Irrigation

†222. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a scarcity of water for irrigation in the country;

(b) if so, the status of irrigation water at present, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have prepared or going to prepare any plan to increase the number of reservoirs for irrigation water in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) At present, there are about 4050 large dams in the country and numerous small dams. The total storage capacity of the reservoirs created through these dams is estimated to be 213 Billion Cubic metre (BCM) which is used for various purposes including irrigation. Further, the estimated total storage capacity of on-going projects is 76 BCM.

Project reports on two prioritized Links

223. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 99 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 2004 and state:

(a) the progress achieved so far in the preparation of detailed project reports with regard to the two prioritized links, viz. Ken-Behoa and Parbale-Kalisindh-Chambal under peninsular component; and

(b) if answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reason therefor and by when the same is likely to be finalized?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Government of Madhya Pradesh in 2003 has already conveyed their consent for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Ken-Betwa and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal links. Secretary (WR) held a meeting with Chief Secretaries of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan on 11.01.2005 for sorting out issues for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Ken-Betwa & Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link. The State Governments raised apprehensions on sharing cost of the project, loss of hydropower due to the proposed links, control mechnism for link and structures of project and sharing of water etc. Subsequently, Government of Uttar Pradesh has conveyed their conditional consent for signing of MoU for preparation of DPR of Ken-Betwa link in March, 2005. A modified MoU was sent to Government of Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh in May, 2005 for their approval. A meeting was also held with the representatives of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh on 20th June, 2005 wherein the matter regarding overcoming the reservations of Government of Uttar Pradesh on water sharing was discussed.

Government of Rajasthan has not conveyed their decision regarding preparation of DPR for Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link.

Restoration of Water Bodies

224. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal for restoration of existing water bodies (Tanks) directly linked to agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to clear the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Karnataka has sent the proposal for two district in two phases as given below: